

found the wisdom and strength to come together as one nation, to widen the circle of opportunity, to deepen the meaning of our freedom, to form that more perfect union. Let that be our gift to the 21st century. God bless you and God bless the United States.

(Applause, the Members rising.)

At 10 o'clock and 25 minutes p.m. the President of the United States, accompanied by the committee of escort, retired from the Hall of the House of Representatives.

The Assistant to the Sergeant at Arms escorted the invited guests from the Chamber in the following order: The members of the President's Cabinet; the Chief Justice and the Associate Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States; the Acting Dean of the Diplomatic Corps.

JOINT SESSION DISSOLVED

The SPEAKER. The Chair declares the joint meeting of the two Houses now dissolved.

Accordingly, at 10 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m., the joint meeting of the two Houses was dissolved.

The Members of the Senate retired to their Chamber.

MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE ON THE STATE OF THE UNION

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I move that the message of the President be referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered printed.

The motion was agreed to.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. SCHIFF (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today through February 13, on account of illness.

Mr. ORTIZ (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today through February 3, on account of recovering from surgery.

Mr. BECERRA (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today and the balance of the week, on account of medical reasons.

Mr. RUSH (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today, on account of a death in the family.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

The following Members (at the request of Mr. UNDERWOOD) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:

Mr. UNDERWOOD, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. NORTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. ALLEN, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

The following Members (at the request of Mr. NEUMANN) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:

Mr. CRANE, for 5 minutes, on January 28.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

By unanimous consent, permission to revise and extend remarks was granted to:

The following Members (at the request of Mr. UNDERWOOD) and to include extraneous matter:

Mr. MILLER of California.

Mr. MATSUI.

Mr. MURTHA.

Mr. SERRANO.

Mr. DOYLE.

Ms. ESHOO.

Mr. MORAN of Virginia.

Mrs. MEEK of Florida.

Mr. SKELTON.

Mr. FILNER.

Mr. BERMAN.

Mr. DIXON.

Mr. FAZIO of California.

Ms. SANCHEZ.

Mr. STARK.

Mr. GORDON.

Mr. VISCLOSKY.

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts.

Mr. UNDERWOOD.

Mr. LEVIN.

Mr. GEJDENSON.

Mr. LAFALCE.

The following Members (at the request of Mr. NEUMANN) and to include extraneous matter:

Mr. TALENT.

Mr. GOODLING.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska.

Mr. KIM.

Mr. BEREUTER.

Mr. GILMAN, in two instances.

Mr. RILEY.

Mr. SOLOMON.

Mr. WELLER.

The following Members (at the request of Mr. DUNCAN) and to include extraneous matter:

Mr. REGULA.

Mr. FOLEY.

Mr. MANTON.

Mr. HALL of Texas.

Mr. UPTON.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN.

Mr. THOMAS.

Mr. DELLUMS.

Mr. WAXMAN.

Mr. ACKERMAN.

Mr. HAMILTON.

SENATE BILLS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REFERRED

Bills and a concurrent resolution of the Senate of the following titles were taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 191. An act to throttle criminal use of guns; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 758. An act to make certain technical corrections to the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995.

S. 1172. An act for the relief of Sylvester Flis.

S. 1213. An act to establish a National Ocean Council, a Commission on Ocean Policy, and for other purposes, and in addition, to the Committee(s) on Science and Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

S. 1566. An act to amend the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1940 to protect the voting rights of military personnel, and for other purposes, and in addition, to the Committee(s) on Judiciary and Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

S. Con. Res. 39. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that the German Government should expand and simplify its reparations system, provide reparations to Holocaust survivors in Eastern and Central Europe, and set up a fund to help cover the medical expenses of Holocaust survivors.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 338, I move that the House do now adjourn in memory of the late Honorable SONNY BONO.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.), pursuant to House Resolution 338, and under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, January 28, 1998, at 1 p.m. in memory of the late Honorable SONNY BONO.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XXIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

5946. A letter from the Acting Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Fresh Bartlett Pears Grown in Oregon and Washington; Reduced Assessment Rate [Docket No. FV97-931-2 FIR] received November 24, 1997, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5947. A letter from the Acting Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Winter Pears Grown in Oregon, Washington, and California; Order Amending the Marketing Order [Docket Nos. AO-99-A7; FV96-927-1] received November 24, 1997, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5948. A letter from the Acting Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Revision to Part 46, Regulations Under the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act [Docket No. FV97-355] received November 24, 1997, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5949. A letter from the Acting Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Raisins Produced From Grapes Grown in California; Modifications to the Raisin Diversion Program [Docket No. FV97-989-3 IFR] received November 24, 1997, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5950. A letter from the Acting Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service,